

CLAIMS

What is claimed is new and desired to be protected by Letters Patent is set forth in the appended claims:

1. A positioning system for determining the position of a golf ball comprising:
 - a) a golf ball having a first transmitter positioned therein for transmitting a position signal; and
 - b) a detection unit having a first processor, a first receiver and a display, said first receiver and display both connected to said first processor, wherein said position signal transmitted by said transmitter is received by said first receiver and processed by said first processor for generating directional instructions for display on said display providing aid to the user in locating the position of said golf ball.
2. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said signal transmitted by said transmitter has a predetermined frequency.

3. The system as recited in claim 2, wherein said golf ball further comprises a second processor for controlling transmission of said signal by said transmitter.

4. The system as recited in claim 3, wherein said detection unit includes a second transmitter and said golf ball further includes a second receiver connected to said second processor for receiving an assignment signal transmitted by said second transmitter, wherein upon receipt of said assignment signal, said processor directs said transmitter to transmit a signal at the predetermined frequency.

5. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said display includes a plurality of display fields, wherein each of said plurality of display fields selectively displays information data to the user.

6. The system as recited in claim 5, wherein said information data is at least one of a current time, a current temperature, a current date, a map of a golf course, distance from said golf ball, and a golfer 8's score.

7. The system as recited in claim 6, wherein said first receiver is able to receive signals having different frequencies thereby allowing receipt of position signals from different golf balls.

8. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said detection unit further comprises a numerical keypad connected to said first processor for tuning said first receiver to receive signals transmitted at said predetermined frequency.

9. The system as recited in claim 8, wherein said detection unit further comprises an expansion card reader for receiving data from a storage medium.

10. The system as recited in claim 9, wherein said data is indicative of a map of a golf course.

11. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said detection unit further includes means for notifying the golfer 8 when the golf ball is within a predetermined distance from said detection unit.

12. The system as recited in claim 17, wherein said notifying means generates a vibration signal.

13. The system as recited in claim 17, wherein said notifying means generates an audible signal.

14. The system as recited in claim 10, wherein said detection unit further includes a global positioning transmitter and receiver connected to said first processor, wherein said processor processes a global positioning signal received by said global positioning receiver and displays a position of said detection unit on a map.

15. The system as recited in claim 14, wherein said golf ball further includes a second global positioning transmitter and receiver connected to said second processor, wherein said second processor processes a second global positioning signal received by said second global positioning receiver for displaying a position of said golf ball on a map.